

## For Immediate Release:

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## Florida House Continues Comprehensive Effort to Involve Public in Redistricting

Representative Weatherford Announces Launch of 2012 Redistricting Website

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – State Representative Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel), Chairman of the House Redistricting Committee, announced the re-launch of FloridaRedistricting.org (<a href="www.floridaredistricting.org">www.floridaredistricting.org</a>). The re-launch of this site is part of a comprehensive effort to involve the public in the redistricting process that began with the 2010 MyFloridaCensus initiative and will continue through the 2012 redistricting process.

FloridaRedistricting.org will serve as the House's hub for online information and communications regarding House redistricting activities throughout the process.

"In the coming months, FloridaRedistricting.org will serve to help educate the public on redistricting, provide a portal to MyDistrictBuilder, and ultimately enable Floridians to start the conversation on redistricting," said Representative Weatherford. "Most importantly, the new FloridaRedistricting.org is another step towards implementing the most open and accessible redistricting process in the country."

Floridaredistricting.org will provide Floridians with legislative and legal resources on redistricting and serve as a one-stop connection to all of the House's redistricting websites and social media, and eventually a portal to redistricting plans and testimony provided by other Floridians.

"The Legislature is required by law to put the redistricting puzzle together," continued Representative Weatherford. "However, through FloridaRedistrcting.Org, MyDistrictBuilder, our social media and other outreach efforts, we can make this upcoming redistricting a two-way conversation with Floridians. Redistricting ultimately reflects the portrait of Florida's many diverse communities, and we're going to give them a chance to help paint that portrait."

The new FloridaRedistricting.Org will also contain a broad array of additional information and educational materials on the redistricting process. Visitors to the site will be able to access historical redistricting documents, download informational brochures and presentations, and follow the timeline for public meetings.

Previously, FloridaRedistricting.org served as the House's website for the 2002 redistricting of Florida's state legislative and congressional districts. The content from the former

FloridaRedistricting.org will still be available via either the new page or directly at http://www.floridaredistricting.org/archive/.

The comprehensive effort to involve the public in redistricting, will take another step forward when the Florida House officially launches MyDistrictBuilder in July 2011. MyDistrictBuilder is an online application that allows Floridians to build and submit district plans to the House's redistricting committee for consideration.

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## Resources:

http://www.floridaredistricting.org

http://www.floridaredistricting.org/archive/

January 20, 2011 - MyDistrictBuilder Presentation - Florida media

MyDistrictBuilder – alpha version

Microsoft Azure Customer Solution Study

Brookings – Injecting Transparency Into Redistricting (Video)